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HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE

August 28, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Gregory G. Rushford

1. By prior arrangement with [] Mr. Rushford arrived shortly after 4:00 yesterday afternoon to examine the "NOIWON log."

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2. After offering coffee, allowing him to use my phone to call his wife and inviting him to remove his coat, since he was perspiring, I told Rushford that he was searching for something that didn't exist, that there was no separate NOIWON log, that our regular Log contained all of the information he sought. It developed that Rushford didn't know what NOIWON was, didn't even know what the acronyms stood for, but had been told by someone in the IC Staff that it typified the type of improvement that had been made in the Community lately. That being the case, I started at Square One, explaining what the gray and green phone systems were, tracing the history of the bridging device that made NOIWON possible, set forth the reasons the conference capability was desirable, timing, etc., reviewed the history of NOIWON from the conceptual stage to date, and provided several examples of the kind of situation in which it would be used.

3. I showed him the log for the month of August, which we had clipped opposite each NOIWON conference entry, invited him to read it, agreed to his request to take notes, but insisted that he allow me to send those notes to the Committee office under guard and then explained to him how the Codeword material is transported outside the building. He asked if he might make copies of the Log and I agreed but added that such copies, too, would have to go under guard to the Committee. He

observed somewhat waspishly that he was reluctant to let go of the Log because, as he stated, "things have a way of disappearing." I told him the Log wouldn't and he could take my word for it.

4. Our conversation continued in a disjointed way. I took him out to the Watch to show him how the SWO keeps a log throughout a tour. He tried to draw me into a discussion of quality of DIA vs. CIA. I did, however, confirm the Cyprus Post-Mortem's contention that the increasing use of secure telephones in crisis situations inhibits the sharing of intelligence Community-wide.

5. Rushford wanted to know what I thought about the proposed NMIC. I told him I admired the foresight of someone who could plan it and the skill of the man who got the money for it. He asked my opinion of [REDACTED] who has refused to talk to him. I said I hadn't seen [REDACTED]

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in ten years, probably wouldn't recognize him if I did, but remembered him as a competent and gentlemanly officer. We then discussed [REDACTED] which he thought was fully operational. I told him it wasn't and wasn't even likely to be and probably had been overtaken by other developments in technology. This prompted an exchange on task forces and some brief discussion on [REDACTED] which he professed to find "exciting."

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6. Except for social pleasantries, our conversation ended there. [REDACTED] escorted him to the front entrance and en route he told her that he expects to receive an Agency badge.

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